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Sixty-second session
Third Committee
Agenda item 65
Report of the Human Rights Council

Armenia, Brazil, China, Costa Rica, Cuba,* Liechtenstein, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Russian Federation, Switzerland and Uruguay: amendment to the draft resolution in document A/C.3/62/L.32

Replace the text of the draft resolution entitled "Institution-building of the United Nations Human Rights Council" by the following:

Report of the Human Rights Council[1]

The General Assembly,

Taking note of Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1, entitled "Institution-building of the United Nations Human Rights Council", and 5/2, entitled "Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate-holders of the Human Rights Council", of 18 June 2007,[2]

Endorses the decision of the Human Rights Council to adopt resolutions 5/1 and 5/2 of 18 June 2007, including their annexes and appendices.

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Non-Aligned Movement.

[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53).

[2] Ibid., chap. IV, sect. A.

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Sixty-second session
Third Committee
Agenda item 63
Advancement of women

Angola:* amendments to draft resolution A/C.3/62/L.16/Rev.2

1. Replace the title of the draft resolution with the following:

   Eliminating rape and other forms of sexual violence in all their manifestations, including in conflicts and related situations

2. Replace the fifteenth preambular paragraph with the following:

   Strongly condemning all acts of violence against women and girls, whether perpetrated by the State, by private persons, or by non-State actors, calling for the elimination of all forms of gender-based violence in the family, within the general community, and where perpetrated or condoned by the State, and stressing the need to treat all forms of violence against women and girls as a criminal offence, punishable by law,

3. Replace the seventeenth preambular paragraph with the following:

   Recognizing that rape or any other form of sexual violence is unlawful in all circumstances and in all places, regardless of the sex or age of the victim, including in detention and in jails, whether or not it is committed within the territory of the State, whether or not in the course of an international or non-international armed conflict, or in areas under foreign occupation,

4. Delete the nineteenth preambular paragraph.

5. Replace the twenty-first preambular paragraph with the following:

   Determined to eliminate rape and other forms of sexual violence in all their manifestations, including in conflicts and related situations,

6. Replace operative paragraph 1 (b) with the following:

   (b) End impunity by ensuring that all rape victims, particularly women and girls, have equal protection under the law and equal access to justice, and by investigating, prosecuting and punishing any person responsible for rape and other forms of sexual violence, including whether or not committed by

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the group of African States.

07-59883 (E) 151107

States or non-States actors to achieve political or military objectives, whether or not committed within the territory of States, whether or not in the course of an international armed conflict, including in detention or in jails and regardless of the sex or age of the victims,

7. Replace operative paragraph 2 (a) with the following:

(a) Support efforts to address rape, including through the regular collection, analysis and dissemination of data, to facilitate such efforts and, in particular, to work towards overcoming the difficulties and challenges of capacity-building and collecting information on the practice;

8. Replace operative paragraph 2 (c) with the following:

(c) Assign adequate resources within the United Nations system to those bodies, specialized agencies, funds and programmes responsible for the promotion of gender equality and women's rights and to efforts throughout the United Nations system to eliminate violence against women and girls, and design programmes to provide assistance to victims of rape, including children born as a result of rape;

9. Replace operative paragraph 3 (c) with the following:

(c) Support programmes to eliminate rape and other forms of sexual violence in all their manifestations and design programmes to provide assistance to victims of rape;

10. In operative paragraph 4 (a), delete the words "as instruments to achieve political or military objectives," after the words "sexual violence".

11. Replace operative paragraph 5 with the following:

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the elimination of rape and sexual violence in all their forms including in conflicts and related situations.

United Nations A/C.3/62/L.86

General Assembly

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Sixty-second session
Third Committee
Agenda item 121
Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Tentative programme of work of the Third Committee for the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, submitted by the Chairman of the Committee

Item 1. Social development:

(a) Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;

(b) Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family;

(c) Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing;

(d) United Nations Literacy Decade: education for all.

Item 2. Crime prevention and criminal justice.

Item 3. International drug control.

Item 4. Advancement of women:

(a) Advancement of women;

(b) Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly.

Item 5. Promotion and protection of the rights of children:

(a) Promotion and protection of the rights of children;

(b) Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children.

Item 6. Indigenous issues:

(a) Indigenous issues;

(b) Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People.

07-60573 (E) 201107

Item 7. Promotion and protection of human rights:

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments;

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;

(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

Item 8. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination:

(a) Elimination of racism and racial discrimination;

(b) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

Item 9. Right of peoples to self-determination.

Item 10. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions.

Item 11. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

United Nations A/C.3/62/L.87

General Assembly

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Sixty-second session
Third Committee
Agenda items 128 and 63 (a)

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

Advancement of women

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/62/L.20/Rev.1

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

I. Introduction

1. At its thirty-ninth session, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, in the light of the statement of the programme budget implications of its draft decision 39/I submitted in accordance with rule 23 of the rules of procedure of the Committee, adopted decision 39/II. The statement of programme budget implications reproduced in annex X to the annual report of the Committee to the General Assembly[1] was subsequently amended to take into account decision 39/II (see E/2007/L.42).

2. As provided in article 21, paragraph 1, of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Committee is to submit to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, an annual report on its activities. Accordingly, the amended statement (E/2007/L.42) was issued to inform the Council of the programme budget implications of decisions of the Committee at its thirty-ninth session, amounting to $14,156,400.

3. At its resumed substantive session of 2007, held in New York on 17 October 2007, the Economic and Social Council, by its decision 2007/279, took note of the annual report of the Committee. The related statement of programme budget

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/62/38).

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implications (E/2007/L.42) was thus included in the revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive and resumed substantive sessions in 2007 (see A/62/515).

4. If draft resolution A/C.3/62/L.20/Rev.1 is adopted by the General Assembly, the provisions of operative paragraphs 14 and 15 thereof would result in changes in the programme of work and the resource requirements of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. The present statement of programme budget implications is submitted to bring to the attention of the General Assembly those changes.

II. Requests contained in the draft resolution

5. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 14 and 15 of draft resolution A/C.3/62/L.20/Rev.1, the General Assembly would:

(a) Decide to authorize the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to hold three annual sessions of three weeks each, with a one-week pre-session working group for each session for an interim period, effective from January 2010, pending the entry into force of the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and to authorize three annual sessions of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol to the Convention;

(b) Decide to authorize the Committee to meet on an exceptional and temporary basis in the biennium 2008-2009 in a total of five sessions, of which three would occur in parallel chambers, taking due account of equitable geographical distribution, for the purpose of considering reports of States parties submitted under article 18 of the Convention; and decide that two of five sessions would take place at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

6. Because the requests contained in operative paragraph 14 relate to the biennium 2010-2011, the respective activities and resource requirements would be considered in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011. The implications of the requests contained in operative paragraph 15, which relate to the biennium 2008-2009, are set out below.

III. Relationship of the draft resolution to the biennial programme plan and the programme of work contained in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

7. The activities to be carried out relate to programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management; subprogramme 2, Supporting human rights bodies and organs, of programme 19, Human rights; and subprogramme 4, Support services, of programme 24, Management and support services, of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2008-2009.[2] They also fall under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council

[2] Ibid., *Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/61/6/Rev.1).

affairs and conference management; section 23, Human rights; and section 28D, Office of Central Support Services, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009.

8. Provisions have been made under section 23, Human rights, for travel and per diem costs of the 23 members of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to attend its two annual regular sessions of 15 working days each and, for each session, a five-day pre-session working group meeting; the cost of attendance at two annual meetings of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol; and substantive, conference and support services for the Committee, the pre-session working group and the Working Group on Communications.

9. The General Assembly, in its resolution 60/230, authorized the Committee to hold a third annual session in 2006 and 2007 as a temporary measure and to meet in parallel working groups during its third annual session in 2006 and its first and third annual sessions in 2007 on an exceptional and temporary basis. The related one-time additional provisions were included in the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007.

IV. Activities by which the requests would be implemented

10. The holding of five sessions, of which three would occur in parallel chambers during the biennium 2008-2009, called for in operative paragraph 15 of the draft resolution, would allow the Committee to consider a greater number of States parties' reports. Prior to the adoption of resolution 60/230, which authorized the Committee in 2006-2007 to hold three annual sessions of three weeks each with a one-week pre-sessional working group for each session, and two annual sessions of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol; and to meet for up to seven days in parallel chambers during three of its six sessions during 2006 and 2007, the Committee considered the reports of 16 States parties annually. During 2006 and 2007, the Committee considered the reports of 69 States parties (31 in 2006 and 38 in 2007) and would have been able to eliminate a significant amount of the accumulated backlog of reports awaiting review.

11. This extended meeting time would result in holding one additional session of the Committee in 2008, including for up to seven days in parallel chambers. Moreover, one of two regular sessions scheduled for 2008 and 2009 would also be held in parallel chambers. This would allow the Committee to consider 38 States parties' reports in 2008 and 22 in 2009, thus reducing the backlog of reports waiting consideration, which is estimated to reach 42 by 1 January 2008; to ensure that incoming reports are considered in a timely manner; to enhance its efforts to ensure the monitoring of the Convention in States parties with long overdue reports; and to discharge of all its other responsibilities under the Convention and the Optional Protocol. It is estimated that, as a result of using this extended meeting time, the backlog of reports would be 28 on 1 January 2010.

12. In order to support the additional workload of the Committee, particularly in view of the additional time that would be required to prepare for the consideration of States parties' reports during the biennium 2008-2009, general temporary assistance resources, equivalent to six work-months at the P-3 level, would be required to assist with:

(a) Analysis of States parties' reports on the implementation of the Convention, drawing upon prior reports, and other relevant information, in particular from United Nations sources;

(b) Preparation of draft lists of issues and questions on States parties' reports under consideration by the Committee;

(c) In-session support to Committee experts in the preparation of draft concluding comments on States parties' reports;

(d) Provision of substantive support, especially during the sessions of the Committee with parallel working groups.

13. The mandate of the Committee is to meet twice a year for three weeks each time. A one-week pre-session working group precedes each session. The Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol is currently convened twice a year for up to 10 days. The session meetings require interpretation services in the six official languages and the pre-session working group meetings require interpretation services in English, French and Spanish only. The total documentation required for translation into the six official languages is estimated at 6,600 pages pre-session, 800 pages in session and 800 pages post-session relating to the two three-week sessions each year of the biennium, and a total of 800 pages for post-session documentation relating to the two one-week meetings of the pre-session working group for each year of the biennium. Summary records are provided for all meetings of the Committee, with the exception of those of the pre-session working group.

14. Should draft resolution A/C.3/62/L.20/Rev.1 be adopted, it would entail one additional three-week session in 2008 with up to seven days in parallel chambers, which would require interpretation services in the six official languages. As one of two regular sessions scheduled for both 2008 and 2009 would also be held in parallel chambers, they would likewise require interpretation services in all six official languages. The additional one-week pre-session working group meeting to be held prior to the additional three-week session in 2008 would require interpretation services in English, French and Spanish only. The total additional documentation required for translation into the six official languages is estimated at 1,500 pages pre-session, 200 pages in session and 200 pages post-session relating to the additional three-week session in 2008; 1,680 pages pre-session, 315 pages in session and 315 pages post-session relating to the parallel working groups for the 2008-2009 biennium only; and 200 pages for post-session documentation relating to the additional one-week pre-session working group meeting in 2008. Summary records in English only would be provided for all the meetings of the Committee, with the exception of the pre-session working group meetings.

15. Should the draft resolution be adopted, the exact dates of all the meetings of the Committee, consisting, in 2008, of three three-week sessions, including two sessions in parallel chambers, and three one-week pre-session working group meetings, and, in 2009, of two three-week sessions, including one session in parallel chambers, and two one-week pre-session working group meetings, will be determined through consultation between the substantive secretariat and the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, subject to the availability of conference facilities and services.

16. Concerning the provision, in operative paragraph 15 of the draft resolution, that two of the five sessions in the biennium 2008-2009 be held in New York, it is considered an exception to section I, paragraph 4, of resolution 40/243, whereby the

General Assembly reaffirmed that United Nations bodies should plan to meet at their respective established headquarters.

V. Modifications required in the programme of work and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

17. The adoption of the draft resolution would result in a modification of the number of meetings and reports cited in the programme of work contained in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009. In the narrative of section 23, Human rights, subprogramme 2, Supporting human rights bodies and organs (A/62/6 (Sect. 23)), paragraph 23.66 (a) (xvi) would be revised as follows:

(xvi) Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women:

a. Replace the words "plenary and chamber meetings of the Committee (60 per year) (120)" with the words "plenary and chamber meetings of the Committee (94 in 2008 and 64 in 2009) (158)";

b. Replace the words "lists of issues and questions (38 reports annually) (76)" with the words "lists of issues and questions (38 reports in 2008 and 22 reports in 2009) (60)".

VI. Estimated resource requirements

A. Conference-servicing requirements

18. It is estimated that additional conference-servicing requirements of $10,357,400 would arise under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 (A/62/6 (Sect. 2)). The details of these requirements are set out in table 1.

Table 1

Additional conference-servicing requirements for plenary meetings, pre-session working groups and plenary parallel meetings (temporary)

(United States dollars)

	Plenary session meetings 2008	*Pre-session working groups 2008*	*Plenary parallel meetings 2008-2009*[a]	*Total 2008-2009*
Meetings servicing	232 000	36 600	324 900	593 500
Pre-session documentation	3 185 200	—	3 583 800	6 769 000
In-session documentation	445 200	—	701 000	1 146 200
Post-session documentation	445 200	259 400	701 000	1 405 600
Summary records	176 000	—	246 900	422 900
Other conference services	7 300	2 400	10 500	20 200
Total	**4 490 900**	**298 400**	**5 568 100**	**10 357 400**

[a] One-time provision for 2008-2009.

B. Non-conference-servicing requirements

Section 23, Human rights

19. It is estimated that additional resources of $340,450 for travel, per diem and terminal expenses for the members of the Committee to attend a third annual three-week session in New York in 2008, with a one-week pre-session working group meeting, would be required under section 23, Human rights, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009. A provision for general temporary assistance equivalent to six work-months at the P-3 level, estimated at $75,000, would also be required.

Section 28D, Office of Central Support Services

20. An additional amount of $35,100 would be required to provide for contractual services for sound technicians to service the additional session, meetings in parallel chambers and meetings of the pre-session working group.

21. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/62/L.20/Rev.1, the total additional requirements relating to the additional session of the Committee and the pre-session working group meetings in 2008 and three sessions in parallel chambers (2 in 2008 and 1 in 2009) would amount to $10,807,950, as shown in table 2.

Table 2
Total additional requirements relating to the additional session of the Committee and the pre-session working group meetings in 2008 and holding three sessions in parallel chambers
(United States dollars)

	2008	*2009*	*Total*
Section 23. Human rights			
Travel, per diem and terminal expenses	340 450	—	340 450
General temporary assistance	75 000	—	75 000
Subtotal	**415 450**	**—**	**415 450**
Section 2. General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management			
Meetings servicing, interpretation and documentation	8 501 300	1 856 100	10 357 400
Section 28D. Office of Central Support Services			
Common support services	17 500	17 600	35 100
Total	**8 934 250**	**1 873 700**	**10 807 950**

VII. Contingency fund

22. It will be recalled that, under the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditure derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget. Under this procedure, if

additional expenditure were proposed that exceeded the resources available from the contingency fund, the activities concerned would be implemented only through the redeployment of resources from low-priority areas or the modification of existing activities. Otherwise, such additional activities would have to be deferred to a later biennium.

VIII. Summary

23. **Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/62/L.20/Rev.1, additional resources in the total amount of $10,807,950 would arise under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009, including $415,450 under section 23, Human rights, $10,357,400 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, and $35,100 under section 28D, Office of Central Support Services. This would represent a charge against the contingency fund and, as such, would require additional appropriations for the biennium 2008-2009 to be approved by the General Assembly at its sixty-second session.**

24. **The General Assembly would also be required to approve the proposed modifications to the outputs to be incorporated into the programme of work of section 23, Human rights, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 under subprogramme 2, Supporting human rights bodies and organs (A/62/6 (Sect. 23), para. 23.66 (a) (xvi))**

Annex

Comparison of additional requirements in document E/2007/L.42 and in the present statement of programme budget implications

(United States dollars)

	2008	*2009*	*Total*
Additional requirements relating to the additional sessions of the Committee and the pre-session working group meetings (one additional annual session with parallel chambers) (E/2007/L.42)			
Section 23. Human rights			
Travel, per diem and terminal expenses	340 450	340 450	680 900
General temporary assistance	75 000	75 000	150 000
Subtotal	**415 450**	**415 450**	**830 900**
Section 2. General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management			
Meetings servicing, interpretation and documentation	6 645 200	6 645 200	13 290 400
Section 28D. Office of Central Support Services			
Common support services	17 500	17 600	35 100
Total	**7 078 150**	**7 078 250**	**14 156 400**
Additional requirements relating to the additional session of the Committee and the pre-session working group meetings in 2008 and holding three sessions in parallel chambers (present document)			
Section 23. Human rights			
Travel, per diem and terminal expenses	340 450	—	340 450
General temporary assistance	75 000	—	75 000
Subtotal	**415 450**	**—**	**415 450**
Section 2. General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management			
Meetings servicing, interpretation and documentation	8 501 300	1 856 100	10 357 400
Section 28D. Office of Central Support Services			
Common support services	17 500	17 600	35 100
Total	**8 934 250**	**1 873 700**	**10 807 950**
Difference	**(1 856 100)**	**5 204 550**	**3 348 450**

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Agenda item 70 (b)
Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of): amendment to draft resolution A/C.3/62/L.33/Rev.1

Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

After the ninth preambular paragraph, insert a new preambular paragraph reading:

Recalling article 29 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 18 of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, which established that everyone has duties towards and within the community, in which alone the free and full development of his or her personality is possible;

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Third Committee
Agenda item 63
Advancement of women

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations

Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the question, including resolution 61/145 of 19 December 2006,

Deeply convinced that the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[1] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"[2] are important contributions to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women, and must be translated into effective action by all States, the United Nations system and other organizations concerned,

Reaffirming the commitments to gender equality and the advancement of women made at the Millennium Summit,[3] the 2005 World Summit[4] and other major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions, and reaffirming also that their full, effective and accelerated implementation are integral to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Welcoming progress made towards achieving gender equality, but stressing that challenges and obstacles remain in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session,

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[1] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.
[2] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.
[3] See resolution 55/2.
[4] See resolution 60/1.

07-60736 (E) 261107

Recognizing that the responsibility for the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session rests primarily at the national level and that strengthened efforts are necessary in this respect, and reiterating that enhanced international cooperation is essential for full, effective and accelerated implementation,

Reaffirming that gender mainstreaming is a globally accepted strategy for promoting the empowerment of women and achieving gender equality by transforming structures of inequality, and reaffirming also the commitment to actively promote the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and social spheres, as well as the commitment to strengthen the capabilities of the United Nations system in the area of gender equality,

Bearing in mind the challenges and obstacles to changing discriminatory attitudes and gender stereotypes, and stressing that challenges and obstacles remain in the implementation of international standards and norms to address the inequality between men and women,

Expressing serious concern that the urgent goal of 50/50 gender balance in the United Nations system, especially at senior and policymaking levels, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, remains unmet, and that the representation of women in the United Nations system has remained almost static, with negligible improvement in some parts of the system, and in some cases has even decreased, as reflected in the report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system,[5]

Reaffirming the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding,

Reaffirming also the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS[6] and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS adopted at the High-level Meeting on AIDS, held from 31 May to 2 June 2006,[7] which, inter alia, acknowledged the feminization of the pandemic,

Noting with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes of the United Nations system,[8]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;[9]

2. *Reaffirms* the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women,[1] the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[2] and the declaration adopted on the occasion of the ten-year review and appraisal of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action at

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[5] A/61/318.

[6] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[7] Resolution 60/262, annex.

[8] E/2007/64.

[9] A/62/178.

the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women,[10] and also reaffirms its commitment to their full, effective and accelerated implementation;

3. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the fulfilment of the obligations of States parties under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[11] are mutually reinforcing in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women, and in this regard welcomes the contributions of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to promoting the implementation of the Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, and invites States parties to the Convention to include information on measures taken to enhance implementation at the national level in their reports to the Committee under article 18 of the Convention;

4. *Calls upon* Governments, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, and all sectors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, as well as all women and men, to fully commit themselves and to intensify their contributions to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

5. *Calls upon* States parties to comply fully with their obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol thereto[12] and to take into consideration the concluding comments as well as the general recommendations of the Committee, urges States parties to consider limiting the extent of any reservations that they lodge to the Convention, to formulate any reservations as precisely and narrowly as possible, and to regularly review such reservations with a view to withdrawing them so as to ensure that no reservation is incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention, also urges all Member States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to consider doing so, and calls upon those Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol;

6. *Encourages* all actors, inter alia, Governments, the United Nations system, other international organizations and civil society, to continue to support the work of the Commission on the Status of Women in fulfilling its central role in the follow-up to and review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, and, as applicable, to carry out its recommendations, and welcomes, in this regard, the revised programme and methods of work of the Commission adopted at its fiftieth session,[13] which give particular attention to the sharing of experiences, lessons learned and good practices in overcoming challenges to full implementation at the national and international levels as well as to the evaluation of progress in the implementation of priority themes;

7. *Calls upon* Governments, and the relevant funds and programmes, organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective

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[10] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/232.

[11] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[12] Ibid., vol. 2131, No. 20378.

[13] See Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/9.

mandates, and invites the international financial institutions and all relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to intensify action to achieve the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, through, inter alia:

(a) Sustained political will and commitment at the national, regional and international levels to take further action, inter alia, through the mainstreaming of gender perspectives, including through the development and use of gender equality indicators, as applicable, in all policies and programmes and the promotion of full and equal participation and empowerment of women, and enhanced international cooperation;

(b) Promotion and protection of, and respect for, the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by women and girls, including through the full implementation by States of their obligations under all human rights instruments, especially the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

(c) Ensuring full representation and full and equal participation of women in political, social and economic decision-making as an essential condition for gender equality, and the empowerment of women and girls as a critical factor in the eradication of poverty;

(d) Involving women actively in environmental decision-making at all levels; integrating gender concerns and perspectives in policies and programmes for sustainable development; and strengthening or establishing mechanisms at the national, regional and international levels to assess the impact of development and environmental policies on women;

(e) Providing technical assistance to women, particularly in developing countries, to ensure the continuing promotion of human resource development and the development of environmentally sound technologies and of women's entrepreneurship;

(f) Respect for the rule of law, including legislation, and continued efforts to repeal laws and eradicate policies and practices that discriminate against women and girls, and to adopt laws and promote practices that protect their rights;

(g) Strengthening the role of national institutional mechanisms for gender equality and the advancement of women, including through financial and other appropriate assistance, to increase their direct impact on women;

(h) Undertaking socio-economic policies that promote sustainable development and ensure poverty eradication programmes, especially for women and girls, and strengthening the provision of and ensuring equal access to adequate, affordable and accessible public and social services, including education and training at all levels, as well as to all types of permanent and sustainable social protection/social security systems for women throughout their life cycle, and supporting national efforts in this regard;

(i) Taking further steps to ensure that the educational system and the media, to the extent consistent with freedom of expression, support the use of non-stereotypic, balanced and diverse images of women presenting them as key

actors of the process of development as well as promoting non-discriminatory roles of women and men in their private and public life;

(j) Incorporating gender perspectives and human rights in health-sector policies, programmes and research activities, paying attention to women's and girls' specific needs and priorities, ensuring women's right to the highest attainable standards of health and their access to affordable and adequate health-care services, including sexual, reproductive and maternal health care and lifesaving obstetric care, in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[14] and recognizing that the lack of economic empowerment and independence has increased women's vulnerability to a range of negative consequences, involving the risk of contracting HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other poverty-related diseases;

(k) Eliminating gender inequalities, gender-based abuse and violence; increasing the capacity of women and adolescent girls to protect themselves from the risk of HIV infection, principally through the provision of health care and services, including, inter alia, sexual and reproductive health, and the provision of full access to comprehensive information and education; ensuring that women can exercise their right to have control over, and decide freely and responsibly on, matters related to their sexuality in order to increase their ability to protect themselves from HIV infection, including their sexual and reproductive health, free of coercion, discrimination and violence; and taking all necessary measures to create an enabling environment for the empowerment of women and to strengthen their economic independence, while, in this context, reiterating the importance of the role of men and boys in achieving gender equality;

(l) Strengthening national health and social infrastructures to reinforce measures to promote women's access to public health and taking action at the national level to address shortages of human resources for health, by, inter alia, developing, financing and implementing policies, within national development strategies, to improve training and management and effectively govern the recruitment, retention and deployment of health workers, including through international cooperation in this area;

(m) Adequate mobilization of resources at the national and international levels, as well as new and additional resources for the developing countries, including the least developed countries and countries with economies in transition, from all available funding mechanisms, including multilateral, bilateral and private sources;

(n) Increased partnerships among Governments, civil society and the private sector;

(o) Encouraging joint responsibility of men and boys with women and girls in the promotion of gender equality, based on the conviction that this is essential to the achievement of the goals of gender equality, development and peace;

(p) Removing structural and legal barriers, as well as eliminating stereotypic attitudes, to gender equality at work, promoting equal pay for equal work, and promoting the recognition of the value of women's unremunerated work, as well as

[14] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

developing and promoting policies that facilitate the reconciliation of employment and family responsibilities;

8. *Reaffirms* that States have an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent violence against women and girls, provide protection to the victims and investigate, prosecute and punish the perpetrators of violence against women and girls, and that failure to do so violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms, and calls upon Governments to elaborate and implement laws and strategies to eliminate violence against women and girls;

9. *Strongly encourages* Governments to continue to support the role and contribution of civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations and women's organizations, in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

10. *Resolves* to intensify the efforts of its Main Committees and subsidiary bodies to fully mainstream a gender perspective in their work, including through paying more attention to issues related to the status of women under their consideration and within their mandates, as well as in all United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions and in their follow-up processes;

11. *Requests* that reports of the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies systematically address gender perspectives through qualitative gender analysis and, where available, quantitative data, in particular through concrete conclusions and recommendations for further action on gender equality and the advancement of women, in order to facilitate gender-sensitive policy development;

12. *Urges* Governments and all entities of the United Nations system, including United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, and all relevant actors of civil society, to ensure the integration of gender perspectives in the implementation of and follow-up to all United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions and to give attention to gender perspectives in preparation for such events, including the Commemorative High-level Plenary Meeting Devoted to the Follow-up to the Outcome of the Special Session of the General Assembly on Children in 2007, the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[15] and the third session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol,[16] in Bali, Indonesia, in 2007, the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterey Consensus in Doha in 2008, and the Third High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Accra in 2008;

13. *Reaffirms its call* to include a gender perspective in the consideration of all issues in the agenda and activities of the Peacebuilding Commission and the Human Rights Council;

14. *Encourages* the Economic and Social Council to continue its efforts to ensure that gender mainstreaming is an integral part of its work and that of its subsidiary bodies, through, inter alia, implementation of its agreed conclusions 1997/2 of 18 July 1997[17] and its resolution 2004/4 of 7 July 2004;

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[15] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[16] FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.3, annex.

[17] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/52/3/Rev.1), chap. IV, para. 4.

15. *Welcomes* the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2007 of the Economic and Social Council,[18] which, inter alia, reaffirmed that gender equality and the promotion and protection of the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all are essential to eradicating poverty and hunger and that all countries should promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and, as called for, inter alia, in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, identify and accelerate actions towards that end;

16. *Requests* all bodies that deal with programme and budgetary matters, including the Committee for Programme and Coordination, to ensure that programmes, plans and budgets visibly mainstream gender perspectives;

17. *Reaffirms* the primary and essential role of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as well as the central role of the Commission on the Status of Women, in promoting the advancement of women and gender equality;

18. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to continue to encourage its functional commissions to mainstream a gender perspective in their respective follow-ups to major United Nations conferences and summits and to develop more effective means to ensure the implementation of outcomes on gender equality at the national level;

19. *Underlines* the catalytic role played by the Commission on the Status of Women, as well as the important role played by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, in promoting and monitoring gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system;

20. *Requests* that entities of the United Nations system systematically incorporate the outcomes of the Commission on the Status of Women into their work within their mandates;

21. *Reaffirms* the commitment made at the 2005 World Summit to the full and effective implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, while noting the seventh anniversary of its adoption and the open debates in the Council on women and peace and security;

22. *Urges* Governments and the United Nations system to take further steps to ensure the integration of a gender perspective and the full and equal participation of women in all efforts to promote peace and security including in peace negotiations, peacekeeping, peacebuilding and post-conflict situations, as well as to increase their role in decision-making at all levels, including through the development of national action plans and strategies;

23. *Calls upon* all parts of the United Nations system to continue to play an active role in ensuring the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, through, inter alia, the work of the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the Division for the Advancement of Women and the maintenance of gender specialists in all entities of the United Nations system, as well as by ensuring that all personnel, especially in the field, receive training and

[18] See A/62/3, chap. III, sect. C, para. 90. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/62/3/Rev.1).

appropriate follow-up, including tools, guidance and support, for accelerated gender mainstreaming, and reaffirms the need to strengthen the capabilities of the United Nations system in the area of gender;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review and redouble his efforts to make progress towards achieving the goal of 50/50 gender balance at all levels in the Secretariat and throughout the United Nations system, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, considering, in particular, women from developing and least developed countries, from countries with economies in transition and from unrepresented or largely underrepresented Member States, and to ensure managerial and departmental accountability with respect to gender balance targets, and strongly encourages Member States to identify and regularly submit more women candidates for appointment to positions in the United Nations system, especially at more senior and policymaking levels;

25. *Encourages* the subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly to incorporate gender-equality perspectives systematically in their discussions and outcomes, including through effective use of the analysis, data and recommendations contained in reports of the Secretary-General, and to follow up on the outcomes;

26. *Requests* that reports of the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly facilitate gender-sensitive policy development by more systematically including qualitative gender analysis, data and recommendations for further action;

27. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to continue its efforts towards achieving the goal of gender balance, including with the active support of gender focal points, and requests the Secretary-General to provide an oral report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-second session, to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session, under the item entitled "Advancement of women", and to include within his report on human resources management, information on the status of women in the United Nations system, including on progress made and obstacles encountered in achieving gender balance, recommendations for accelerating progress, and up-to-date statistics, including the number and percentage of women and their functions and nationalities throughout the United Nations system, and information on the responsibility and accountability of the Office of Human Resources Management of the Secretariat and the secretariat of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for promoting gender balance;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report annually to the General Assembly, under the item entitled "Advancement of women", as well as to the Commission on the Status of Women and the Economic and Social Council, on the follow-up to and progress made in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, with an assessment of progress in gender mainstreaming, including information on key achievements, lessons learned and good practices, and recommendations on further measures to enhance implementation.

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Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

Elimination of racism and racial discrimination: comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

From rhetoric to reality: a global call for concrete action against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/62/L.65

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

I. Introduction

1. In his report on the revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council at its resumed second session, its third session and its third special session in 2006 (A/61/530/Add.1), the Secretary-General informed the General Assembly that, under the terms of Human Rights Council resolution 3/2, the Council would act as Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference, it was estimated that requirements that would arise to support the preparatory process would be absorbed in the provisions of the programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007 and the estimated requirements for the biennium 2008-2009 would be considered in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009.

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II. Requests contained in the draft resolution

2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 2, 4, 7 and 19 of draft resolution A/C.3/62/L.65, the General Assembly, would:

(a) Welcome the report of the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference on its first session (A/62/375) and underline that the second session of the Preparatory Committee would elaborate further on the date, duration and level of participation so as to ensure a smooth and successful Review Conference;

(b) Decide that the intersessional working group of the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference would perform functions and undertake activities compatible with, and complementary to, the goals of the Review Conference and that its primary objective would be to commence negotiations with a view to consolidating the draft outcome document of the Conference;

(c) Request the Secretary-General to allocate adequate funding, from the regular budget of the United Nations, for the regional preparatory conferences and the Durban Review Conference, including for the funding of delegations from least developed countries, as well as non-governmental organizations, in particular those from the developing countries;

(d) Request the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance with all the necessary human and financial assistance to carry out his mandate efficiently, effectively and expeditiously and to enable him to submit his reports to the General Assembly as required.

III. Financial impact and activities by which the proposed requests would be carried out

3. The Secretariat considers that additional resources would arise, particularly with regard to operative paragraphs 4 and 7 of the draft resolution for the following:

(a) Additional support staff to service the intersessional working group;

(b) Conference services of the regional preparatory conferences, including interpretation and documentation, travel and daily subsistence allowance of interpreters, Secretariat support staff, representatives from the least developed countries and representatives of non-governmental organizations from the given region to the venue of the given regional conference.

4. It is noted that the Preparatory Committee intends to elaborate further on the date, duration and level of participation to ensure a smooth and successful Conference.

5. It is also noted that the issue of regional preparatory meetings and other aspects of the preparatory process of the Durban Review Conference remain under discussions and negotiations among the Member States.

6. Accordingly, upon finalization of such discussions and negotiations and determination of the structure, the precise financial implications would be finalized. This would enable the Secretariat to undertake all the necessary consultations on the specifics of the preparations and regional preparatory meetings. Therefore, the full

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Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/62/L.44

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

I. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraph 5 of draft resolution A/C.3/62/L.44, the General Assembly would reiterate its request to the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide additional funds and human resources within existing resources of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to enable the Subregionial Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa to respond positively and effectively to the growing needs in the promotion and protection of human rights and in developing a culture of democracy and the rule of law in the Central African subregion.

II. Activities by which the proposed requests would be carried out

2. The Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa was established in 2001 pursuant to General Assembly resolution 54/55 A at the request of the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and operates under the auspices of OHCHR. The Centre became

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fully operational in March 2001 and has entered its sixth year of operation. The Centre has developed a three-year strategy for 2007-2009 based on the OHCHR strategic management plan, which aims at strengthening existing partnerships and collaboration with the United Nations country teams, States members of ECCAS, national human rights institutions, civil society organizations and the media to promote and protect human rights and democracy in Central Africa. For the biennium 2008-2009, the Centre will pursue the implementation of this strategy through the following thematic priorities drawn from the strategic management plan: impunity, discrimination and the fight against poverty. It will concentrate its work on the Central African Republic, Chad, the Congo, Equatorial Guinea and Gabon, countries in which OHCHR does not have a field presence, as well as in Cameroon. In addition, the Centre plans to work on the following thematic areas in compliance with its democracy mandate: democracy deficit, conflict prevention, transitional justice and peacebuilding. In view of the successful deployment of two Associate Experts (Junior Professional Officers) to the Centre in 2007, no request for Professional posts was made in the proposed programme budget for 2008-2009.

3. Subsequent to the review of the proposed programme budget for 2008-2009 and based on the request of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for additional information concerning the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/158, by which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide additional funds and human resources within the existing Office of the High Commissioner to enable the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa to respond positively and effectively to the growing needs in the promotion and protection of human rights and in developing a culture of democracy and the rule of law in the Central African subregion, OHCHR carried out a review of the resources proposed for the Centre for the biennium 2008-2009. In carrying out its review and bearing in mind the recommendation of the Advisory Committee in paragraph VI.18 of its report (A/62/7) the Office concluded that with additional resources, the Centre would foster OHCHR country engagement in focus countries by engaging further with the United Nations country teams, assisting countries in following up on the concluding observations of treaty bodies and the recommendations of thematic mandate holders, and would advocate for the implementation of ratified international human rights instruments. During the biennium 2008-2009, the Centre is, inter alia, expected to increase its involvement in raising awareness on the human rights of marginalized groups, especially those of minorities, indigenous people and women. The Centre's activities are therefore expected to be fully implemented with the support of the proposed new resources discussed below to work on issues such as the human rights of minorities and indigenous people in the Central African subregion.

III. Modifications required in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009

4. Adoption of the draft resolution would not give rise to modifications of the programmed outputs under section 23, Human rights, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 (A/62/6 (Sect. 23)).

IV. Additional requirements for the biennium 2008-2009

5. The current staffing of the Centre comprises three international Professional staff financed from the regular budget (1 Senior Human Rights Officer, at the P-5 level; 1 Regional Adviser on Democracy, at the P-4 level; and 1 Human Rights Officer, at the P-3 level), as well as three local staff under general temporary assistance (1 National Officer/Documentalist; 1 Administrative and Finance Assistant; and 1 Driver/Messenger). The Centre is also funded by extrabudgetary resources, i.e., the National Officer post of Communications and Media Officer as of October 2007 and two human rights Associate Experts. This current level of resources, as proposed in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009, is considered insufficient to allow the Centre to implement the activities detailed in paragraphs 2 and 3 above. In order to respond to the provision of operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution the following additional resources amounting to $520,100 would be proposed for the Centre under section 23, Human rights, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009:

(a) Staff requirements ($381,100):

(i) New posts ($178,200): 1 P-3 Human Rights Officer and 1 Local level post for a driver;

(ii) Conversion of 3 Local level positions, currently funded from general temporary assistance, to established posts for one Documentalist, one Administrative and Finance Assistant and one Driver/Messenger ($123,300);

(iii) Conversion of 1 National Officer post, currently funded from extrabudgetary resources, to serve as Communications and Media Officer ($79,600);

(b) Non-post requirements ($139,000). Additional requirements are proposed to provide for: 2 subregional seminars on the rights of minorities and cultural diversity, respectively, for 20 participants ($80,000): vehicles including security equipment ($35,000); furniture and equipment for new staff and upgrading the Centre telecommunications equipment ($14,000); and staff travel within the subregion ($10,000).

6. Furthermore, an amount of $53,500 under section 35, Staff assessment, would be required, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment.

7. The creation of the additional international Professional post would strengthen the Centre's capacity to ensure full implementation of the three-year strategic plan for 2007-2009, which places an emphasis on bridging human rights gaps in focus countries of the Central African subregion in which OHCHR does not have an operational presence. Furthermore, as requested in operative paragraph 5 of draft resolution A/C.3/62/L.44, the additional human resources enumerated above would enable the Centre to respond positively and effectively to the growing needs in the promotion and protection of human rights and in developing a culture of democracy and the rule of law in the Central African subregion.

V. Potential for absorption

8. No provision has been made under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 in relation to the activities that would be requested under the draft resolution. It is not possible at this stage to identify activities within section 23, Human rights, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the biennium to meet the additional requirement.

9. With regard to operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution, the Committee's attention is drawn to the provisions of section VI of General Assembly resolution 45/248 B, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee was the appropriate Main Committee of the Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters, and also reaffirmed the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

VI. Contingency fund

10. It will be recalled that, under the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditure derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget. Under this procedure, if additional expenditures were proposed that exceeded the resources available from the contingency fund, the activities concerned would be implemented only through the redeployment of resources from low-priority areas or the modification of existing activities. Otherwise, such additional activities would have to be deferred to a later biennium.

VII. Conclusion

11. **Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/62/L.44, additional resources totalling $573,600 would be required under section 23, Human rights ($520,100), and under section 35, Staff assessment ($53,500), to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009. This would represent a charge against the contingency fund and, as such, would require additional appropriations under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 to be approved by the General Assembly at its sixty-second session.**